The Wymberley Jones DeRenne Georgia Library

By Its Librarian

LEONARD L. MACKALL

Honorary Member of the Georgia Historical Society

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private collections of documents bearing on the history of this State; and then, in particular, try to give you some more definite idea of the Wymberley Jones De Renne Georgia Library, perhaps the finest private collection ever formed for any State in the Union, and certainly by far the most important one in Georgia.

But first let me quote from the quaint old official surveyor DeBrahm a very interesting and almost unknown passage on the libraries and the state of culture in Georgia, as he knew it about 1751-71.—"He (the author) was often surprised at the good and sound Judgments and Argumentations of Men, whom He knew had been brought up entirely to Mechanism without any more Education than reading and writing, they after acquiring Estates, being in easy Circumstances of Life, and in a Country not as yet debauched by European Luxuries, such as Balls, Masquerades, Operas, Plays, &c; they applied themselves to reading good Authors, of which (yea of the best) America has no Reason to complain of a Want. There is scarcely a House in the Cities, Towns or Plantations, but what have some Choice Authors, if not Libraries of religious, philosophical and political Writers. Booksellers endeavor to import the newest Editions, and take Care to commission the best, well knowing they will not incumber their Shops long, but soon find Admirers, and Purchasers, besides that many of their Books they write for are commissioned by the Inhabitants. This Province was scarce thirty years settled, before it had three fine Libraries in the City of Savannah, the fourth at Ebenezer, and a fifth 96 3-4 miles from the Sea, upon the Stream of Savannah. In these Libraries could be had books wrote in the Caldaic, Hebrew, Arabec, Siriac, Coptic, Malabar, Greek, Latin, French, German, Dutch and Spanish, besides the English, viz. in thirteen Languages." (2)

(2) History of the Province of Georgia, by J. G. W. DeBrahm Wormsloe 1849, p. 24. cf. note on Wormsloe books below. I have not yet succeeded in locating that fifth Library situated "96 3-4 miles from the Sea upon the Stream of Savannah."

It is well known that Edward Langworthy, a Georgia delegate to the Continental Congress, collected materials for what would have been the first independent history of this State, but he died in Elkton, Md., without publishing it (if ever written) and Stevens, Jones and others have lamented the fact that all efforts to trace and locate his papers have failed utterly. (3) However, the DeRenne Library last year (4) acquired many of them, including most interesting letters from Gen. James Jackson, advising Langworthy just which books to use, and sending him various manuscripts to supplement them.

The foundation in 1839 and early success of the Georgia Historical Society (5) were largely due to the energy and persistence of Israel Keech Tefft (1794-1862) of Savannah, whose great collection of autographs and manuscripts was possibly the most important private one in the whole country, at that time. Frederika Bremer, the Swedish novelist, who had travelled a great deal, and visited Savannah in 1850 and 1851, did not hesitate to call him "the greatest autograph collector in the world." After his death his whole collection was dispersed by auction in New York, March 1867. His complete set of autographs of Signers of the Declaration of Independence "Quarto, bound in full Turkey morocco extra, gilt

(3) Cf. Wm. B. Stevens, Hist. of Ga. I, vii (N. Y. 1847) & C. C. Jones, Jr., "Biograph-Sketches of the Delegates from Ga., to the Continental Congress" p. 137 f. 1891. The 1791 letter from L., which Jones quotes is now in the Emmet Collection (E-Calendar No. 1303) of the N. Y. Public Libr., having been sold with the Jones Autographs Apr. 24-26, 1894 (No. 653 of Henkel's cat. for Birch's auction, Phila.)

Langworthy was preceded by the well-known anonymous Historical Account of_ _ _the Colonies of South Carolina and Georgia. London 1779, 2 vols, written by Alex. Hewatt, or Hewitt, or Hewit, and reprinted with notes in B. R. Carroll's Hist. Collections of So. Ca., vol. I, 1836.

The late Mr. W. J. DeRenne had very elaborate search made for the remains of the Langworthy collection, but in vain.

(4) Acquired at the auction of Sam. T. Freeman & Co., Phila., on April 10th, 1917. Dr. I. Minis Hays, Secr. of the Am. Philosophical Society, marked the very vague and almost worthless auction catalogue and then sent it to Mr. J. Florance Minis, of Savannah, who kindly gave it to me, with the above result. Thus we are indeed much indebted to these gentlemen. The auction cat. includes these items as part of the estate of the late Geo. M. Conarroe, sold by order of the executors of Nannie D. Conarroe.

(5) Cf. C. C. Jones, Jr., Anniversary Address before the Ga. Hist. Soc. 14 Feb., 1851.

edges" [6] was bought by the New York State Library for $625, and fortunately survived the disastrous fire of March 29, 1911, when so little else in the building could be saved, though it was officially considered fire-proof.

The once deservedly famous library of fine books and manuscripts formed by the bibliophile Alexander Augustus Smets, [7] Tefft's friend and neighbor, and also one of the founders of the Georgia Historical Society, though really remarkable in other respects, (e. g. he had Caxton's ed. 1482 of Higden's Polychronicon) seems to have contained little or nothing of importance on Georgia.

Tefft's fine Button Gwinnett manuscript had been presented to him by George Wymberley Jones DeRenne (1827-1880) the next Georgia collector of note. His name was originally George Frederic Tilghman Jones, but in 1847 he

(6) Tefft is called the "fons et origo" of the G. H. S. in the brief memoir by C. C. Jones (Memorial Biographies of the N. Engl. Hist. Genealogical Society V, 60-62, Boston, 1894), and Stevens Hist. of Ga. II, xvi (1859) expresses his deep obligation to Tefft "in whose library the idea of writing this History was conceived, &c." Miss Bremer's expression quoted from her letter, dated Sav. May 14th, 1850, in her "Homes of the New World," translated by Mary Howitt, London, 1853, I, 347 cf. 366 & III, 265) is doubtless somewhat too enthusiastic, but Lyman C. Draper's interesting and elaborate paper on Autographs of Signers, &c., says "Mr. Tefft seems to have been the precursor in the collection of autographs in this country." Collections of the State Hist. Soc. of Wisconsin, X, 376, (1888 and reprinted 1909) and Draper has many other references to him and also to C. C. Jones, Jr., cf. Index. I have just received the "revised and enlarged ed. N. Y. 1889" of Draper's paper. Sam. Gilman's chatty account of the Tefft autographs appeared originally in his Charleston periodical "The Rose," April 18, 1835, and June 10-July 8, 1837, was appended to his wife Caroline G's Poetry of Travelling, 1838, and then reprinted in his "Contributions to Lit." Etc. 1856 (p. 547 of this vol. contains G's poem "Fair Harvard" 1836) with the statement that Tefft had meanwhile secured specimens of the 17 Signers previously named as lacking. Wm. Brotherhead's Book of the Signers 1861 p. 103f. gives full facsimile of Tefft's John Adams's letter to Polly Palmer, July 5, 1776, now in the Hist. Society of Pa., Dreer collection.

Tefft's complete set of Signers is No. 1794 of the "Catalogue of the entire collection of autographs of the late Mr. I. K. Tefft, of Savannah, Ga. _ _ _ to be sold by auction _ _ _ March 4th &c, 1867 _ _ _ cat. prepared by Chas. F. Fisher, of Phila. Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., N. Y., 2630 lots. The Catalogue contains a prefatory letter from Tefft's friend Wm. Gilmore Simms date, Oct. 3, 1866, pp. 1-4. Our copy of the catalogue priced in ink from that of Simon Gratz notes simply: Bought by N. Y. State Library, $625, but Draper's paper (pp. 378,430) says that A. W. Griswold bought it from Tefft's widow in 1865 for $625 and that E. French later sold it to the N. Y. State Library for $800, a strange contradiction. Perhaps the Gratz copy of the cat. merely undertook to record the auction price and the latest owner. But prefatory pp. (3) and 15 of the printed cat. seem to exclude entirely the possibility of any such sale before the auction. Draper's essay revised 1889, p. 13, explains that Griswold bought an incomplete set from Tefft's widow in 1865; and that French bought the complete set at the 1867 sale for $625.

(7) A. A. Smets (1795-1862) born in Malines, Belgium, had come to Savannah in Nov. 1818. His house is now occupied by the Harmonie (Hebrew) Club. There is a lengthy account of the Smets library by Wm.

changed it to George Wymberley Jones, and then on January 12, 1866 [8] by order of the Superior Court of Chatham County added "DeRenne," as a translation of Van Deren, to his own name and that of his family. His mother's mother was Letitia Van Deren, of Wissahickon, near Philadelphia, Pa. As son of Dr. George Jones, Judge and U. S. Senator, grandson of Dr. Noble Wymberley Jones, Speaker of the Ga. Legislature and delegate to the Continental Congress, and great-grandson of Noble Jones, the companion of Oglethorpe and later Chief Justice in

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B. Stevens in The Magnolia, or Southern Monthly by P. C. Pendleton for July, Aug., Sept. and Oct., 1841 (Vol. III. Sav. 1841.) cf. Southern Literary Messenger for Oct.-Nov. 1851, and DeBow's Review for July 1852 pp. 97-98 with portrait, and A Southern Library, a Statement read before the N. Engl. Hist. Geneal Soc., Oct. 5, 1859 from notes of a recent journey (written by Rev. Joseph A. Copp.) pp. 4 (Boston, 1859.) also a short notice by C. C. Jones, Jr., on pp. 42-44 of the same vol. that contains his memoir of Tefft. Smets compiled a little "Catalogue Raisonne of Curious Manuscripts, Early Printed and other Rare Books; composing Part of the Library of Mr. A. A. Smets. Printed for Private Circulation. Savannah: John M. Cooper & Co., 1860" pp. 101. The whole of the Smets collection fills two separate auction catalogues, also of Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., N. Y., 1868—the "Cat. of the Private Library of the late A. A. Smets" auction - - - May 25th, &c., includes the books and the early illuminated MSS., Etc. (2468 lots in all), while the "Cat. of the private Collection of Autographs - - - auction - - - June 1st" (no year date on title-page) contains only 435 lots, but lot 307 alone consists of 2,069 autographs bound in 31 vols. collected thus by the learned English antiquary Wm. Upcott (1779-1845) and bought thus bound at the London Upcott sale in 1846.

Mr. William Loring Andrews, the most discriminating of American bibliophiles, purchased several of the choicest lots at the Smets sale, including a beautiful 15th century illuminated Missal on vellum, bound in velvet (lot No. 1465, $250, cf. Cat. Rais. 1860 p. 9) which he recently showed me, and also Higden's Polychronicon lot No. 1812 $250 cf. Cat. Rais, 1860, p. 25) printed at Westminster in 1482 by William Caxton, who had revised Trevisa's translation and also added a continuation of his own, this being the only original work of any length from Caxton's own pen now known. This copy bearing Smets' name and date: Savannah, May 28, 1836, was part of a collection of "Early Books" formed by Mr. Andrews to illustrate the first century of printing, and then presented entire to Yale University in 1894. Accordingly it is carefully described in the admirable Catalogue of that Collection, compiled by our Corresp. Member, Dr. Addison Van Name (New Haven, 1913, 300 copies, pp. 34-38.) Seymour de Ricci's laborious "Census of Caxton's (Bibliogr. Soc. London, 1909) duly records the Smets Higden as appearing in both the 1860 and 1868 cats., and Dr. Van Name notes his mistake in thinking it perhaps identical with the Wm. Menzies copy sold at auction N. Y., Nov. 1876 No. 926. Evidently both de Ricci and Van Name were puzzled by varying descriptions. But Mr. Andrews explained the matter to me very simply—he gave to Menzies several leaves from the Smets copy before having it rebound by Bedford. Even after this the Menzies copy remained incomplete as is the case with almost all those now known. The latest description of Caxton's Higden is in E. Gordon Duff's invaluable "Fifteenth Century English Books, a Bibliography," Oxford 1917 No. 172 (Bibliograph Soc. Illustrated monographs No. 18.)

(8) His name still appears as "Geo. Wymberley Jones," as owner of the originals of the frontispieces of Oglethorpe and N. W. Jones in C. C. Jones' History of Ga., 1883, because old plates were used unchanged. The former had been contributed to Stevens's Hist. of Ga. I (N. Y. 1847) cf. its Preface p. xiii. The latter was later repeated in "Men of Mark in Georgia" ed. W. J. Northen, &c. (Atlanta, 1907) p. 208, to accompany a reprint (from Jones' 1891 book) of C. C. Jones' biographical sketch of N. W. Jones, preceded by a new similar sketch of Noble Jones written by the late Mr. W. J. DeRenne, pp. 195-207.

Savannah, Dr. George Wymberley Jones was deeply interested in everything concerning this State. He spent his childhood at "Wormsloe," the beautiful estate which had been granted to Noble Jones soon after Oglethorpe first landed, and then, after attending school in Philadelphia and New York, graduated A. B. at the University of Pennsylvania, July 3, 1845. Later he took his M. A., July 3, 1848, and M. D., April 8, 1848, there also, but he was back at Wormsloe before that, and had begun collecting with such success that the 1847 first volume of Stevens's History of Georgia (p. xiii) thanks him as already "a young but ardent lover of historic lore, and whose library is more complete in works relating to Georgia than any private collection I have met with."

In 1847 also he started the series of "Wormsloe Quartos" (actually privately printed in Philadelphia, *not at Wormsloe,* as is so often assumed, since no printer is named) which made accessible to a very limited circle historical material of real value, e. g. DeBrahm's History of the Province of Georgia, Wormsloe 1849, above quoted. Two "Wormsloe" books are of considerable literary interest, "Journal and Letters of Eliza Lucas, 1850," 19 copies, not even mentioned in Mrs. St. Julian Ravenel's charming biography of her as Eliza Pinckney (N. Y. 1896), and the octavo [9] "A Bachelor's Reverie, in three

(9) It, too, is printed in "fours," but is "royal octavo" in size (10 1-8x 6 7-16 inches.) The Wormsloe Quartos are:

I. Observations upon the effect of certain late political suggestions. By the Delegates of Georgia. Printed in the year 1781. Wormsloe 1847. 21 (or really 22) copies only (printed by C. Sherman, Philadelphia.) Printed from the pamphlet in the Library Co. of Phila., then supposed unique, but we now have the C. C. Jones, Jr., copy here. I found the original MS. among the Emmet Mss. (Calendar No. 1662.) The Wormsloe reprint was reprinted almost entire in Geo. White's Hist. Collections of Ga. (1854 and 1855) pp. 106-110.

II. History of the Province of Georgia with (6) maps of original surveys by John Gerar William DeBrahm. Wormsloe 1849, 49 copies (printed by C. Sherman.) Printed from the Harvard MS. "Hist. of the three provinces of So. Ca., Ga., and East Florida."

III. Journal and letters of Eliza Lucas. Now first printed. Wormsloe 1850, 19 copies (printed by C. Sherman.) Contents dated July 1, 1739-Feb. 27, 1762. Ed. by Mrs. Harriott Pinckney Holbrook. Eliza Lucas married Chief Justice Charles Pinckney in 1744, and became the mother of General Chas. C. and Thos. Pinckney.

IV. Diary of Winthrop Sargent during the campaign of 1781. Wormsloe 1851, 46 copies (printed by C. Sherman.) On St. Clair Expedition, hitherto unprinted.

V. Acts passed by the General Assembly of the Colony of Georgia 1755 to 1774. Now first printed. Wormsloe 1881, 49 copies (folio) (printed

parts. . . by Ik: Marvel. Wormsloe, 1850," 12 copies, reprinted by permission of Donald G. Mitchell from the Southern Literary Messenger for September, 1849, which thus constitutes the first book edition of this famous and charming book, and explains the rather vague statement in the author's New Preface for the edition of 1884 (p. xvi)—"This (first) paper had been received with much approval and indeed had come at about this time to the honor of a private printing, in elegant quarto form, and an edition of twelve copies, by a curious bibliophile and (I trust) worthy gentleman then living at Savannah, Ga."

Unfortunately Mr. DeRenne's valuable library and manuscripts were entirely destroyed by Sherman's troops, (10) but, nothing daunted, he began again, and was preparing a

by T. K. Collins, Phila.) Ed. by Jones after death of G. W. J. DeRenne who had obtained the materials from the Public Record Office, London.

VI. Journal of the Transactions of the Trustees for Establishing the Colony of Georgia in America, by the Rt. Hon. John, Earl of Egmont, Visc. Perceval _ _ _ Now first printed. Wormsloe 1886, 49 copies (printed at the Riverside Press, Cambridge, Mass.) Ed. by C. C. Jones, Jr., from the MS. sold at the Henry Stevens sale at Sotheby's, July 1881, No. 239 and then presented to the State of Ga., by J. S. Morgan. That MS. was printed entire as vol. V, 1908 of the Ga. Colonial Records, published by the State. The Wormsloe Ed. included all the text (entries June 14, 1738 to June 6, 1744) but omitted the index to the lost MS. covering June, 1737, to June 1738. On the recent discovery of the Earl of Egmont's private diary covering the previous period cf Dr. Benj. Rand in the N. Y. Nation of Jan. 28, 1915. Mr. R. A. Roberts is now editing the diary for the English Historical MSS. Commission. Vol. I, ending with 1733, has been printed but not published

Just after the first Quarto, as appears from the original bill, Sherman printed also an octavo Theory concerning the Nature of Insanity by George Wymberley-Jones. Wormsloe 1847, 48 copies. (A copy was recently presented to the Surgeon General's Office U. S. A., Washington.) This is rather metaphysical and not the author's medical "graduation thesis" as stated in Jones' Anniversary Address before the G. H. S., 1881, p. 24. On the other hand the American Journal of the Medical Sciences (Ed. Hays, Phila.) for Oct. 1848, contains (pp. 308-310) observations by G. W. J., on the endosmotic theory of catharsis "Extracted from an inaugural dissertation for the degree of M. D."

He was also the author of an anonymous and very acrid pamphlet "Observations on Doctor Stevens's History of Georgia, Savannah: 1849." which Sabin's Dict. &c., vol. 9 (1877) No. 36505 calls: "A severe and able criticism. Privately printed at Philadelphia. One hundred copies on fine and five on large paper. Intended to be added to the Wormsloe publications." Probably it too was printed by Sherman.

(10) Cf. a letter from G. W. J. DeRenne to C. C. Jones, Jr., in the latter's extra-illustrated copy of Delbrahm (now here) dated merely "Philadelphia, March 31st" probably about 1874):

"The autograph of Button Gwinnett is the rarest of the Signers' I am told. There was among my papers a very fine one which I gave to Mr. Tefft for his collection many years ago. If you could trace the fate of his autographs, it might be possible to get it from among them. The destruction of my papers during the war has finished another old storehouse of oddities—and certainly made autographs of Georgians rarer—Gwinnett's, I think, among the number. Thus the chances are steadily decreasing—and, though always small, are now less than ever." Similarly he wrote on May 31st, 1880, shortly before his death, to Geo. H. Moore, the Lenox Librarian, "In consequence of the destruction of my library and papers by Sherman's troops in 1864" his own library copies of the

Wormsloe volume of unprinted Georgia Colonial Acts when he died. His books relating to Georgia were bequeathed by his son, Everard to the State of Georgia. [11] His Wormsloe Quartos were continued (Colonial Acts 1881, and Egmont's Journal 1886) by his widow, [12] with the assistance of Col. Charles C. Jones, Jr., whose various works Mr. DeRenne and his wife had materially aided in every possible way.

Mr. DeRenne was President of this Society 1873-4; through him the Society secured the transcripts of the letters of Oglethorpe and Gov. Wright for the third volume, 1873, of our Collections; and he generously presented to the Society Col. Jones's "Dead Towns of Georgia" and the anonymous "Itinerant Observations in America," reprinted from the London Magazine 1745-6, as bound together to form volume IV, 1878, of our Collections, though also issued separately.

Wormsloe books were lost and he could not give definite data about them. There is no record of the Mss., thus lost forever, but an interesting note book lettered on the back: "Miscellanea Georgiana. G. F. T. Jones," contains a manuscript—"Catalogue of books George Wymberley Jones Wormsloe, 1854-61" in his own neat handwriting, including at least one title "An account of the remarkable conversion of Jachiel Heishel from the Jewish to the Christian Religion, &c., 8 vo. pp. 32., Savannah 1770." otherwise quite unknown. This entry is therefore no doubt the source of the same title in the list of wants appended to our 1911 Catalogue, p. 264 (reading: Zachial.)

The above MS. Catalogue has this note: "This cat. contains about 1250 vols. costing about $3500. I had besides a number of other books, and engravings, not mentioned in it—in all, I believe, about 1300 vols. worth about $3700. Most of them were lost by the sack of Habersham's store at the capture of Savannah, Dec. 21, 1864—and by the fire at Oaklands, Jefferson Co., Ga., April 25, 1865."

In May 1911, Dr. Samuel A. Green, the famous Librarian of the Mass. Hist. Society, kindly presented to the late Mr. W. J. DeRenne a copy of Dr. Wm. Douglass's Summary &c., of the First Planting of the British Settlements in North America (London, reprinted 1755) both vols., of which bear the armorial book-plate and engraved name of "Geo. Wymberley Jones of Wormsloe." Dr. Green's letter of May 27, 1911, states that the work "was given to me in Richmond soon after the fall of that city in the spring of 1865. I thought then, as I still think, that it was 'looted'—taken from a private library during the war." Mr. DeRenne's letter of thanks stated that this was then the only book from his father's ante-bellum library in his possession.

(11) Cf. the pamphlet "The DeRenne Gift communication from the State Librarian, John Milledge, Atlanta, G. W. Harrison, State Printer, 1894. Unfortunately many of these books disappeared not very long after the pamphlet appeared.

(12) The large and very interesting "Mary DeRenne, of Georgia, Collection" relating to the Confederacy, in the Ga. Room of the Confederate Museum at Richmond, was formed by her, and bequeathed to the Museum by her son Everard. It is listed in the 1898 Cat. of the Museum, and then, of course, is included in D. S. Freeman's elaborate Calendar of Confed. Corresp., &c., published by the Museum in 1908. The handsome illustrated volume "Robert Edward Lee, an Oration pronounced at the Unveiling of the Recumbent Figure at Lexington, Virginia, June 28th, 1883, by John Warwick Daniel, Savannah, Ga., 1883," was as stated in its colophon, privately printed for Mrs. DeRenne, 100 copies, (probably printed by T. K. Collins of Phila.)

The authorship of these interesting "Itinerant Observations" seems to have hitherto remained an unsolved problem, not even a suggestion having been hazarded, but I have now at last succeeded in discovering definitely that they were in fact written by Edward Kimber (1719-1769), novelist and compiler, [13] son of the Rev. Isaac Kimber (1692-1755) a learned Baptist minister who had conducted the London Morning Chronicle, 1728-32. Edward Kimber also wrote the rare pamphlet (of which the late Mr. DeRenne bought a copy in 1911) defending Oglethorpe, entitled: "A Relation, or Journal, of a late Expedition to the Gates of St. Augustine, on Florida: Conducted by the Hon. General James Oglethorpe, with a Detachment of his Regiment, &c., from Georgia. In a Letter to the Reverend Mr. Isaac K—r, in London. By a Gentleman, Voluntier in the said Expedition, London: Printed for T. Astley . . 1744" signed at the end: "G. L. Campbell v. E. K." Hitherto everyone (even including the British Museum Catalogue) seems to have considered Campbell as the author's real name, and paid no attention to the "v. E. K." i. e. vice Edward Kimber, which shows that it was a mere alias.

Charles Colcock Jones, Jr., a native of Savannah, is so well known as an historical and antiquarian writer, as scholarly as he was prolific and versatile, that nothing more need be said of him here as an author. But it is by no means so widely known that he was also a really great collector. Besides two fine and extensive collections of Indian relics, he gathered

(13) The London Magazine expressly stated, 1746, Dec., p. 624 (or p. 64 of the G. H. S. reprint of the Itin. Observ.) that the It. Observ. were written by the author of the Relation or . . Expedition to . . St. Augustine . . 1744 (printed for the publisher of the London Mag.) and then the name "Rev. Isaac K—r in London" on its title suggested to me Isaac Kimber who had a son Edward corresponding to the ending of the pamphlet (p. 36) "Tho' you have lost, for a Time, your dear E.... K.....r, yet you may ever expect the same tender, requisite and due Regards from him, who tho' in Name different, in Sentiment will always be like him; and to you, to whom I owe all I am or possess in my Mind. Ever most dutiful, obedient and affectionate G. L. Campbell, v. E. K." which I accordingly took to mean that G. L. C. had in name taken the place of Edward Kimber. Now the London Magazine, 1746, Nov., p. 573 (our reprint p. 53) says that the author of the It. Observ. had contributed to it as "Americus, Cynicus, Cimber & Historicus." His "Historicus" contrib. 1746, Aug., Oct. and Nov., is duly noted in the printed index to the volume thus: "History, some Remarks on it, by Mr. Edward Kimber 415, 515, 565-568, other Pieces by him, 125-128, 248, 321-330, 572, 573. Conclusion of his Observations in America 620-624." which thus settles the whole question definitely. I am trying to find out more about Kimber.

with extraordinary diligence and judgment a very large number of really valuable historical manuscripts (including a complete set of autographs of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence), [14] and engravings and books. Many of his own works and other selected volumes (some 200 in all) he than extra-illustrated so very skilfully as to deserve only the highest praise even from those who in general disapprove of a practice usually carried out in a very mechanical and commonplace way. Col. Jones was a real bibliophile in the best sense of the word. It is of course a pity that his fine library could not have been kept intact just as he left it, but most of his chief treasures are still in the possession of his son and daughter in his house in Augusta, or in the DeRenne Library, which has a special collection of his numerous writings, including now also an interesting paper on an Indian "Canoe in Savannah-River Swamp" [15] not even mentioned in his own or his son's elaborate lists.

THE WYMBERLEY JONES DERENNE GEORGIA LIBRARY, at Wormsloe, is named after its Founder, the eldest child of George Wymberley Jones DeRenne, above mentioned. Born at Newport, R. I., Sept. 23, 1853, he was educated at Newport, Montpelier, France, Vevey, Switzerland, attended the Universities of Leipzig and Strassburg, 1871-74, made a tour of the world, graduated LL. B., at Columbia University, N. Y., married in Philadelphia, ran a cattle-ranch in Texas, lived in Biarritz, France, and then returned to Savannah and Wormsloe in 1891, with his wife and three children. Very soon after he reached Wormsloe in 1891 he determined to follow the example set by his father and collect documents relating to Georgia and its history. With

(14) Part of his Indian Collection is now in the Am. Museum of Natural History, N. Y. City. The autographs (the set of Signers being separated into different lots) and the engraved portraits and views were sold by auction in 1894 cf. above.

(15) The Canoe Paper is in the Journal of the Anthropological Institute of N. Y., vol. 1 No. 1. N. Y., Westermann & Co., "1871-72" pp. 67-70. Cf. list of Jones's writings in A. H. A. A. R. for 1889, pp. 287-293 and by Chas. Edgeworth Jones, his son, in Gulf States Hist. Mag. for March, 1903, substantially reproducing pp. 585-594 of the Hist. of Savannah, Ga., by C. C. Jones, Jr., O. F. Vedder & F. Weldon, Syracuse, N. Y., 1890, there reprinted from John B. Alden's Literary Portraits, N. Y. 1889, taken from his weekly "Literature" for Feb. 9, 1889, N. Y."

characteristically intense energy and persistance and with rare judgment also he devoted himself to this self-imposed undertaking, and he kept at it until his death on June 23, 1916. The first book he thus bought was McCall's rare History of Georgia (1811-16) and during his last illness he succeeded in securing a magnificent copy of the London 1766 volume of Charters of all the American Colonies. He bequeathed the Library to his only son Wymberley W. DeRenne (now Lieutenant in the Army) who has since done everything possible to keep it up as his father would have wished.

Mr. DeRenne was a very strong and striking personality, and his friends still miss him sorely. As regards the Library however, he tried to keep himself in the background, just as he was extremely reluctant to appear in print, [16] for he wished his really wonderful collection to speak for itself. But I must now speak for it to those who cannot see it themselves.

The dignified fire-proof Library building, erected in 1907, facing the water, among the moss covered live-oaks of Wormsloe, is externally classic in appearance, and internally [17] very handsomely and tastefully fitted up in every particular. The building is oblong in shape, a large open fire-place, facing the door, and three large folding double windows on each side. Just inside the door is a bronze model of the Confederate Soldier, presented by G. W. J. DeRenne to top the monument in the Savannah Park Extension.

Yet this noble building is merely a casket for the wonderful treasures it contains. The original vellum manuscript of the Confederate Permanent Constitution, with the signatures of all

(16) He seems to have published nothing except the 1905 catalogue of his Library (merely intended to show that he was collecting in earnest and really buying—as he told me himself), the sketch of Noble Jones above mentioned, a two-page prefatory note to the 1907 edition (which he considered not a success) of our MS. of Lumpkin's account of the Removal of the Cherokees from Georgia, and then in 1909 the privately printed "Short History of the Confederate Constitutions of the Confederate States of Am., 1861-1899" (150 copies) which quotes from: 1. Jeff Davis' Rise and Fall, &c., I, 229: Thos. R. R. Cobb's private MS. notes on the Confed. Const., jotted down at the time, as printed by A. L. Hull in Publications of the Southern History Association for Sept. 1905 (IX, 286) and chiefly F. G. de-Fontaine's anon. article "Two Relics of the War" in the N. Y. Sun of March 26, 1883, page 3, column 3, as I have finally discovered.

(17) Cf. frontispice to our 1911 Catalogue. The much smaller but similar view illustrating the present paper is repeated from G. H. S. Annals 1915, p. 11.

the delegates, is kept in the vault of a bank in Savannah, but the Library contains all the original confidential letters and telegrams from Gen. Lee to Pres. Davis, and many other valuable Confederate MSS., including the original autograph signed of Sherman's famous reply to the Mayor of Atlanta as to removing civilians from the city. (18) We have also, for instance, one of the rare broadsides *printed on satin*, at Augusta, of the Ordinance of Secession of the Republic of Georgia, passed Jan. 19th, 1861. In connection with all these there is a very good collection of books relating to the general government of the Confederacy, and a careful selection of the most important and interesting works on the Civil War, some of which refer to Georgia and Georgia troops only incidentally.

With the exception of this Confederate *selection* the Library contains only material relating to Georgia.

Among the Georgia *Manuscripts* must be mentioned important original letters and reports 1741-43 from Harman Verelst, Accountant of the Ga. Trustees and also Oglethorpe's private agent, addressed to the Earl of Wilmington, the Duke of Newcastle, the Commissioners of the Treasury, &c., Gov. Wright's original detailed reply, dated Feb. 15, 1762, to various questions addressed to him by the Lords of Trade (recd. Oct. 1st, 1761); Gen. Benjamin Lincoln's original Order Book covering the unsuccessful siege of Savannah in Sept.-Oct., 1779; the original anonymous French manuscript Journal of that Siege, (19) of which Col. Jones published a translation in 1874 (dedicated to this Society); a large mass of Gen. Nathanael Greene's Revolutionary correspondence, besides innumerable other letters written by prominent men, many being of great interest. They cover the whole period of Georgia his-

(18) The MS. of the Confed. Constitution was bought by Mrs. G. W. J. DeRenne, July 4, 1883, from Geo. T. Hanning, acting for F. G. deFontaine. In Nov. 1897 deFontaine sold the vol. of Opinions of the Attorneys General C. S. A., Apr. 1861-March 1865 to the N. Y. Public Library which printed extracts in its Bulletin for Dec. 1897, and June and Oct. 1898. A facsmile of the signatures is in the 1905 and 1911 cats. of the Library, and also in Mr. DeRenne's Hist. of the Confed. Const. Lee's Dispatches, etc., to Pres. Davis have been admirably edited by Douglas S. Freeman, N. Y., Putnam, 1915. Sherman's letter to the Mayor of Atlanta is printed in his Memoirs, II, 126f. (N. Y., 1875), in the Official Record serial number 78, p. 417f, and already in a Campaign pamphlet of 1864, which we have.

(19) Cf. illustr. of the French MS. Journal in the 1911 Cat. p. 203.

tory, but few are later than the Civil War. However, as these letters have never been calendared they cannot yet be used to advantage.

The numerous *Engravings* include, for instance: Peter Gordon's large View of Savannah as it stood the 29th of March, 1734, of which Washington owned a copy, though very few others can be located today; Faber's handsome large mezzotint after Verelst's lost portrait of Tomochichi and his nephew, painted from life, while they were in England with Oglethorpe in 1734; and a unique, quaint copper-plate engraving by an otherwise unknown "J. W. B." entitled: "The Georgia Militia under Gen. Floyd attacking the Creek Indians at Autossee—Nov. 29th, 1813." (∞)

There is a fine collection of *Maps*, now all definitely identified, and arranged chronologically, beginning long before Georgia was founded. Some manuscript maps are particularly interesting, but many others are very important and almost equally rare. We have now (recently acquired) the Georgia sheet (No. 10) of Henry Popple's semi-official atlas "Map of the British Empire in America" (1732), John Mitchell's very large four-sheet map of the British and French Dominions in North America (Amsterdam 1755), Wm. Faden's North America 1783, with printed border-text (the only other such copy known being in England, in private possession), and, far more interesting still, what is perhaps the only copy in existence (except one in the British Museum) of the first map of Georgia as such in the first official publication of the Georgia Trustees, namely an "earlier state" of the map later published in Samuel Smith's Sermon before the Georgia Trustees and also in Benj. Martyn's Reasons for Es-

(∞) Savannah in 1734—the framed Lenox copy is now in the N. Y. Public Library. On Washington's copy cf. Griffin & Lane's Cat. of the Washington Collection in the Boston Athenaeum 1897, p. 562f. The note in Winsor V, 369 makes no distinction between the original engraving and a lithograph made from the British Museum copy about 1875, for G. W. J. DeRenne.

Tomochici portrait—Jones, Hist. of Ga. I, 134 uses the crude Augsburg lithograph by Kleinschmidt from Urlsperger's Salzburger Nachrichten instead of Faber's mezzotint from which it was taken.

Floyd engraving—this is the E. B. Holden copy (sale of Apr.-May 1910, No. 3827) described in D. M. Stauffer's Am. Engravers II, 49, No. 285 (Grolier Club 1907.)

tablishing the Colony of Georgia (both of these "London 1733") [21] This earlier state showing inscriptions subsequently erased from the copper-plate before the later impressions, occurs in a folio "Some Account of the Designs of the Trustees for Establishing the Colony of Georgia in America" (4 pp. folio—this copy bought by the late Mr. DeRenne in 1911 from Luther S. Livingston) which, as just stated, is apparently the very first separate official publication of the Georgia Trustees, though it was later reprinted and appended to Samuel Smith's Sermon (preached Feb. 23, 1730-31, but not printed until 1733) as mentioned.

Now I must mention some of the most interesting of the *Books,* and, except where the contrary is expressly stated, those mentioned before the bibliographies were all bought by the late Mr. W. J. DeRenne, though some of them came too late for the 1911 Catalogue.

The early publications relating to Georgia are arranged on the shelves chronologically. Very few of importance are lacking, and most of those lacking are represented by complete photographic reproductions, which for many purposes are as good as the originals, though a bibliophile is reluctant to admit this practical fact!

Let us begin with the *only known copy* of a pamphlet entitled: "Description Abregee De l'Etat present de la Caroline Meridionale, nouvelle edition, Avec des Eclaircissemens (not in the first edition) A Neufchatel." (1732), signed at the end "Jean Pierre Purry," and thus being the *long lost* publication by the Swiss founder of Purrysburg which Oglethorpe so often cites as an authority in his well known anonymous tract "A New and Accurate Account of the Provinces of South Carolina and Georgia," of which we have now the original issue, dated, London 1732, as well as that of 1733 (identical, except the title page) reprinted in the first volume of our Society's Col-

(21) Faden's 1783 map with border text in possession of Col. Dudley A. Mills of Drokes, Beaulieu, Hants, England. Cf. his article in the United Empire for Oct. 1911.
The Smith-Martyn map is reproduced in Winsor V, 365.

lections, 1840. We have the C. C. Jones copy, including the extremely rare third volume, [22] of Wm. Stephen's Journal of the Proceedings in Georgia, London 1742, and also the Jones copy, the *only one now known,* except that in the Leiter Library of the folio "Journal of the Congress of the Four Southern Governors, and the Superintendent of that District, with the Five Nations of Indians, at Augusta, 1763, (Oct.-Nov.)—Charles-Town: Printed by Peter Timothy, 1764, (only 50 copies printed) [23] "of which Jones gives an abstract in his History of Ga. (11,41-46), for it was a very important congress ordered by Sir Chas. Wyndham, second Earl of Egremont, as British Secretary of State for the Southern Department, in connection with the then recent annexation to Georgia of the lands between the rivers Altamaha and St. Mary, and the establishment of the separate governments of East and West Florida. Our copy of the little pamphlet "Account of the Siege of Savannah, by the French and Rebels, Commanded by Count D'Estaing and General Lincoln, together with Sundry other Matters which happened prior and subsequently thereto, chiefly extracted from The Royal Georgia Gazette. Savannah: Printed by James Johnston, 1780." [24] is apparently also unique, and is the more valuable as the original Savannah newspapers from which it was extracted seem to have almost all disappeared, though we have nine unique numbers of Nov. 1779-Jan. 1780. [25]

Col. Jones felt sure that his copy of the original edition of T. U. P. Charlton's Life of Gen. James Jackson, Augusta, 1809,

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(22) The 1908 Supplement to Ga. Colonial Records IV consists of a reprint from our copy of Vol. III, covering Oct. 5, 1740-Oct. 28, 1741. The Earl of Egmont's copy is in the John Carter Brown Library, the Ebeling copy at Harvard, and the Tefft copy in our Society's library, there is another in the Advocate's Library, Edinburgh; but the incomplete Elzas copy (A H. A. A. R. for 1907. I, 167n.) was recently destroyed by fire in New York.

(23) The Journal (p. 43) records an order that 50 copies of it be printed Cf. C. C. Jones, Jr., and Dutcher's Memorial Hist. of Augusta, 1890, pp. 44f. and Stevens, Hist. Ga. II, 26-29. Our copy is described in H. F. De Puy's Bibliogr. of Engl. Colonial Treaties with the Am. Indians (N. Y. Lenox Club 1917) p. 48 from an abstract sent him. He also reproduces the illustr. from our 1911 Cat. p. 218. Cf. Leiter cat. p. 113.

(24) Cf. illustr. in our 1911 Cat. p. 208.

(25) Namely Nos. 39-43 and 45-48 for Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23, 1779 and Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, 1780—all not in C. S. Brigham's very useful list of early Am. Newspapers in Proceedings of the Am. Antique Soc. for Oct. 1913.

was the only one in existence. (26) We now have one too (recent acquisition). Gov. Gilmer's "Georgians" or more correctly "Sketches of some of the First Settlers of Upper Georgia, of the Cherokees and the Author. N. Y. 1855" is now regarded as quite a rare book. We have the author's own copy, with his very numerous alterations and corrections in his own handwriting, intended for use in any future edition. Dr. U. B. Phillips in his admirable Life of Robert Toombs, 1913 (p.155f.) calls attention to the fact that the substance of his famous Slavery lecture in Tremont Temple, Boston, on Jan. 24, 1856, (27) was already contained in "An Oration delivered before the Few and Phi Gamma Societies of Emory College, at Oxford, Ga., July (20th)—Augusta 1853," and Phillips quotes from this since it is now so rare that he knew of no copy except that in the Boston Public Library. We now have one, and also a MS. letter from Toombs as to arrangements for the Tremont Temple lecture, stating that he wished the "hundred dollars compensation" to be devoted to "relieving foreign emigrants who may land at Boston." (both recent acquisitions).

The *first printed Georgia drama* may well have been "The Mysterious Father; a tragedy, in five acts by William B. Maxwell. Savannah Printed by Everitt & Evans _ _ _ 1807. "and we have what seems to be the only copy of it left. Perhaps its title was suggested by Horace Walpole's startling tragedy, "The Mysterious Mother." Though the unauthorized Northern reprints of Judge Longstreet's famous anonymous "Georgia Scenes" are so common, not many people have ever seen the original edition, Augusta 1835. The son and daughter of Col. Jones generously presented their father's copy, containing an autograph letter of the author, to the late Mr. DeRenne

(26) Jones's copy is now in private possession in Atlanta. From it Meegan's undated reprint of 250 copies was made in 1896. But Sabin's Dict. III (1870) No. 12152 had already recorded the Boston Athenaeum copy and now I have found another in the Charleston Library Society. Our copy lacks two leaves, now supplied in photo, from the B. A. copy, with Hugh McCall's signature on its title-page.

(27) Toombs's 1856 slavery lecture is printed in Stephens's War between the States I. 625-47 (1868.)

shortly before his death, and we have now also the Southern Literary Messenger for March, 1836, with Poe's enthusiastic anonymous review of the book.

Thackeray was no doubt the greatest writer who ever visited Savannah, and he was here twice, in March 1853 and again in Feb. 1856 (not 1855 as often stated). Probably it was during the second of these visits, while he was the guest of Mr. Andrew Low, that he wrote that charming little illustrated Savannah sketch which he later copied out and contributed, under the title "A Leaf out of a Sketch-Book" to Miss A. A. Procter's miscellany "The Victoria Regia" London, 1861. To show her gratitude, she then had it reprinted separately as a little brochure, on the cover of which is printed "25 Copies for the Author's Use," and very naturally this little author's edition is now extremely rare and eagerly sought after by all Thackeray collectors. We are therefore very fortunate to have now a copy of this interesting literary curiosity, as well as the "Victoria Regia," (both recent acquisitions.) (28)

These few concrete instances are selected as typical, for it is impossible and tiresome to give long lists of titles, and there are thousands of them! However I must mention that the Library has the "Governor Ewen copy" (the best except that in our Society's library) of the Georgia Acts of 1755-70 printed 1763ff. by James Johnston, many apparently unique printed acts between 1771-99 not since reprinted, and then the original

(28) When Thackeray's "Feast of St. Valentine" Savannah letter to Miss Perry was first printed (Scribner's Magazine for Oct. 1887, p. 416) the date 1855 instead of 1856 was carelessly added, in square brackets, which has led to much confusion, though of course there is no doubt whatever as to the correct date. He wrote a letter from Macon dated Feb. 23, 1856, sold in the Wm. H. Lambert Thackeray sale as lot No. 399 (Feb. 1914.) Our copy of the 1861 brochure was presented by Mrs. Coerr, Lieut. DeRenne's sister. This sketch was included by James T. Fields in his vol. Early and late papers of T. hitherto uncollected, Boston 1867, pp. 261-268, but it was not reprinted in England until 1886 in the Essays &c., forming vol. 23 of T.'s Works. The MS. of this sketch sold in the Lambert Thackeray sale (as lot No. 1090 on Feb. 27, 1914) is now in the possession of Mr. Phoenix Ingraham of N. Y., who kindly informs me that it is on Cornhill Magazine paper, was certainly written in 1861, and contains various corrections (no doubt showing the difference between the printed and he original sketch book forms.)

editions of *all* the Georgia Sessions Laws 1799 to date including now 1818; also what seems to be the only known copy of the second Georgia Constitution, 1789, as printed that year. (29)

The above early acts printed in Savannah in March or April 1763 are perhaps the very first productions of the press in Georgia, and the first book (now known) was probably "The South-Carolina and Georgia Almanack, For the Year of Our Lord 1764- - -By John Tobler, Esq;- - -Georgia: Savannah, Printed by James Johnston." (advertised in the Georgia Gazette of Dec. 8, 1763) which we have also. (30) But the Acts may have been preceded by the first newspaper, "The Georgia Gazette" of April 7, 1763. We have a complete photographic reproduction (exactly like the one which the late Mr. DeRenne presented to our Society) of the unique set through May 23, 1770, preserved in the library of the Mass. Historical Society, (31) and we have also later original numbers, otherwise unknown, and many files of newspapers of Savannah, Augusta and Milledgeville, &c., before the Civil War. Of course we have also the Gentleman's Magazine and the London Magazine, besides the Historical Magazine (1857-75) and its successor the Magazine of Am. History (1877-93) and various early Georgia periodicals, not newspapers.

I must mention the fine collections of original editions of travels in Georgia, the set of Urlsperger (now at last quite complete) (32) on the Salzburgers in Georgia, the Indian col-

(29) Cf. Illustr. in 1911, Cat. p. 23.

(30) Cf. Illustr. in 1911, Cat. p. 6. This is the First Georgia Almanach. Tobler's subsequent vols. for S. C. and Ga. were printed in Charleston instead of Savannah. Cf. Miss Mabel L. Webber's valuable list in the S. C. Hist. & Genealog. Mag. for April, 1914. The late Mr. DeRenne had a second copy of the above Almanach for 1764 but presented it to the Library of Congress.

(31) The Editor of this magazine, Mr. Wm. Harden, kindly calls my attention to records printed in Proceedings of the Mass. Hist. Soc. vol I. 1791-1835 (Boston 1879) pp. 104, 106, 190 showing that these "Newspapers of Savannah, Georgia, from 1763 to 1770, two volumes, bound" were presented at the Quarterly Meeting on Jan. 27, 1807, by Dr. Lemuel Kollock of Savannah, who had been nominated as Corresp. Member at the Quart. Meeting on Jan. 31, 1797 and elected at the Annual Meeting April 25, 1797.

(32) Mr. Andrew Keogh, Librarian of Yale Univ. very kindly aided us in securing at last that "Viertes Stuck," Augsburg 1767, of Urlsperger's "Americanisches Ackerwerk Gottes" (cf. 1911 Cat. p. 178) soon after the death of Mr. DeRenne, who had so eagerly sought it for years in vain. I then obtained also the little poem on the Nightingale ("Erbauliche Gedanken von der Nachtigal") 4 leaves measuring only 4 1-2x3 1-8 inches, almost always lacking in the 14th continuation 1749 of the Salzburger Nachrichten. Then our set was quite complete.

lection, works connected with the infamous Yazoo land frauds (including the Yazoo Act itself as officially printed when first passed), the works of Georgia authors (Lanier, Richard Malcolm Johnston and Joel Chandler Harris, much more nearly complete than in the 1911 Catalogue), the sets of Savannah Mayors' Reports and the City Directories (including that for 1849 recently discovered), and the numerous histories and biographies, &c.

Last, but by no means least for practical purposes, a fine collection (no doubt far the best South of the Congressional Library) of the most important bibliographies in our field, including now Obadiah Rich's rare "Bibliotheca Americana Nova" ed. 1846, 2 vols. covering 1701-1844 (with the other parts for 1506-1700), Henry Stevens's "Historical Nuggets," 1862, 2 vols., Sabin's vast standard "Dictionary of Books relating to America," 1868 to date (including 82,714 numbers to John Smith so far), and Chas. Evans's chronologically arranged American Bibliography, 1903 to date (so far 25,074 numbers through 1792), serve as an absolutely indispensable key and guide to the whole. These are supplemented by the Harvard, Mass. Hist. Society, Boston Athenaeum, Library Co. of Phila., and Richmond Confederate Museum catalogues, with various publications of the Library of Congress. We have also many standard catalogues of famous private collections, such as the S. L. M. Barlow, 1889 (sale 1890), J. R Bartlett, 1866, (310 copies, Civil War), Geo. Brinley sale, 1878-93 (5 parts), T. W. Field sale, 1875 (Indians), H. A. Morrison's catalogue of the Levi Z. Leiter Library, 1907 (100 copies, de luxe copy presented by Mr. Joseph Leiter), Lt. Col. John P. Nicholson, 1914, (300 copies, Civil War, presented by the owner), Henry Stevens's sale at Sotheby's, July 1881, (includes the Egmont Journal MS. as lot No. 239) and lastly Hildeburn's famous and elaborate Catalogue of the Charlemagne Tower Collection of Am. Colonial Laws, 1890 (privately printed for the Hist. Soc. of Pa., which gave us the catalogue).

We have, of course, the necessary volumes of the Carnegie Institution's scholarly Guides to Material for Am. History in Europe; the New York Public Library kindly gave us a copy (only 100 printed in 1900) of the careful Calendar of its great Emmet Collection of Manuscripts, containing much on Georgia.

By far the most important recent donation to the Library from a stranger is Mrs. Whitelaw Reid's most generous gift, last year, of a copy of her magnificent and most elaborate privately printed Roxburghe Club quarto volume of documents relating to the claims of the American Loyalists in the Revolution. (33) A very large part of this hitherto practically unknown material relates to Georgia and Savannah, and we are therefore particularly glad to have here what is probably the only copy South of Washington of this splendid and most scholarly work. After the book was printed, Mrs. Reid presented all the manuscripts (some were printed only in abstract) to the New York Public Library.

But I have detained you too long already with this enumeration, and there are about five thousand items (not counting the manuscripts), each selected for its historical value, not mere arithmetical rarity.

In each case every effort has been made to get the *real original,* the genuine first edition, and, if differences can be discovered, then the *best edition also.* Thus the Library endeavors to gather and preserve together a set of standards on which historical students can rely with far more confidence than is usually justified. In the case of Manuscripts at least lawyers are taught to go to the original, but as to printed books most people, even students, seem to assume that the difference cannot be really material, or, in other words, that any mere reprinter, no matter who he be, is quite reliable enough, and that any changes are probably simply improvements. Yet every-

(33) The title is: "The Royal Commission on the Losses and Services of American Loyalists 1783 to 1785, being the Notes of Mr. Daniel Coke, M. P., one of the Commissioners during that period, edited by Hugh Edward Egerton, Beit Prof. of Colonial Hist. in the Univ. of Oxford, Oxford, printed for Presentation to the Members of the Roxburghe Club, MDCCCCXV," 4to. pp. lv. and 422 pages.

one knows at least that Kipling entirely rewrote the last part of "The Light that Failed," and some of us may possibly even remember that Carlyle in the Edinburgh Review flatly contradicted William Taylor of Norwich as to the ending of Goethe's drama "Stella" (34)—to the great surprise and amazement of Taylor and his biographer Robberds—when as a matter of fact that play too had been rewritten by its author, though none of them even thought of that as a possible explanation. We may not agree with the poet Swinburne that much of what we now read in Hamlet yet was not in the first edition almost spoils the whole thing, and therefore could not possibly have been written or authorized for printing by Shakespeare (to say nothing of Bacon), but *just how great such changes are* nothing in the world except an actual comparison, either with another book or with an apparently reliable bibliography, (none are infallible), can possibly show. Such comparison is absolutely necessary in each case, even in order to determine if the copy is complete. I have mentioned an instance where there proved to be even more on an early map than on a later impression from the very same plate. Even the late Luther S. Livingston failed to notice this fact, though he carefully examined these maps before he sold the earliest of them to the late Mr. DeRenne in 1911, but it was discovered by Mr. George Watson Cole, while working here in Aug. 1917, just as his wonderful and now literally world-famous catalogue of the library (Americana, No. 866) of the late E. D. Church (it now belongs to Mr. Henry E. Huntington) at last fully described the *excessively rare Appendix* (3pp.) to Sir Robert Mountgomery's well-known pamphlet "A Discourse Concerning the design'd Establishment Of a New Colony to the South of Carolina, in the Most Delightful Country of the Universe. London: Printed in the Year 1717." This Appendix permits subscribers to Mountgomery's proposed colony of Azilia to deposit half of their subscriptions with Turner, Caswell & Co., and then with-

(34) Carlyle says (Essays, Centenary Edition II. 351 from Ed. Rev. for March 1831): "that his Stella ends quietly in Bigamy (to Mr. Taylor's satisfaction) which, however the French transl. may run, in the original it certainly does not."

draw it again, if they do not wish to pay the other half. But, as our President's interesting Annual Report on the Georgia Islands (G. H. S. Annals 1916, p. 17) recently explained, Mountgomery's scheme came to nothing after all. I call attention to this Appendix here, because though the indefatigable bibliographer Sabin, in his Dictionary of Books relating to America (vol. 12, 1880, No. 51194) duly records it, and even refers to the Boston Athenaeum copy (of which we now have a photograph) it is completely ignored by Jones, Winsor & McCrady, and was of course not added in Humphrey's reprint (for May, 1897), of the reprint in Force's Tracts (I No. 1) 1836. Having practically stated that Oglethorpe's pamphlet, reprinted in the first volume of our Society's Collections should have been dated there 1732, instead of 1733, since the latter in fact consists of the original sheets (*not reprinted*) of the former merely with a new title-page, I may add that the same fact is true of the 1737 and 1735 issues of the New Voyage to Georgia in the second volume of the Collections. Similarly, but this time by a comparison of the books themselves without reference to a bibliography, I recently discovered that the English translation (by H. Neuman) of the Duke de La Rochefoucauld-Liancourt's Travels through the United States _ _ simply omits (1,604 of the original ed., London 1799, 4to.) 53 entire pages of the French original (IV, 117-170), all being on Georgia and very interesting *without the slightest word of warning.* Such instances might be multiplied indefinitely, but these few will amply suffice to show the actual necessity of having at hand some reliable standard for comparison.

The late Mr. DeRenne was intensely interested in everything connected with his wonderful Library. The new building and its contents were to him almost a holy of holies. Though he regarded his private library as a sort of public trust for the benefit and use of scholars, whom he delighted to welcome most hospitably, yet he also realized that such a collection, like the so-called "case books" of the British Museum or the "Reserve of the N. Y. Public Library, can, as a rule, be used with real advantage to themselves (and to the books), only by scholars and

specialists, and not by the merely curious miscellaneous general public. The additional fact that the library is situated on a private plantation, some eight miles from Savannah, has prevented more than a very few persons, comparatively, from actually seeing it at all, and the 1911 Catalogue [35] (200 copies only) is so little known, and was compiled in such extreme haste, that almost no one has any definite idea as to just what it contains. A new and much more elaborate Catalogue in which the late Mr. DeRenne, his son, Lieut. W. W. DeRenne (the present owner), and also the latter's sisters, Mrs. Elfrida Barrow and Mrs. Audrey Coerr, have taken the very deepest interest, has been in preparation since March, 1916, and is now nearing completion, as far as preliminaries are concerned, but the War has necessarily postponed its printing until later, and until then the Library must remain comparatively passive

So I am particularly glad to have this opportunity to thank now those who have helped us most in carrying on the work. My friend, Mr. George Watson Cole, author of the famous Catalogue of the E. D. Church Library, now Pres. of the Bibliographical Society of Am. and Librarian of the Henry E. Huntington Library, spent three weeks of Aug., 1917, here (with Mr. H. R. Mead as his Assistant) cataloguing our chief treasures bibliographically. Mr. T. L. Cole, of Washington, D. C., who knows more about American Statute Laws than anyone else, was here, with all his Georgia notes, in Jan. 1918, for a week, and materially enriched our catalogue cards in his chosen field. Mr. William Price acted as my assistant, very conscientiously, for eighteen months, from Feb. 1916, giving us the benefit of his unusual learning, especially in languages. I have continuously received much courteous aid and encouragement from such authorities as Dr. J. F. Jameson, Director of the Historical Department of the Carnegie Institution, Mr. W. C. Ford of the Mass. Hist. Society, Messrs. Wilberforce Eames and V. H. Paltsits of the N. Y. Public Library, G. P.

(35) Title of 1911 Cat: "Books Relating to the History of Georgia in the Library of Wymberley Jones DeRenne of Wormsloe, Isle of Hope, Chatham County Georgia. Compiled and Annotated by Oscar Wegelin. 1911." (Savannah Morning News printers.)
The compiling was done in five or six weeks; thus it is unfair to judge Mr. Wegelin's work by this Catalogue.

Winship of Harvard, and from various officials of the Library of Congress, N. Y. Public Library, Hist. Soc. of Pa., Library Co. of Philadelphia, Harvard Library, Boston Athenaeum, Yale Library, John Carter Brown Library. The John Carter Brown Library also very kindly loaned us a copy of their very rare and valuable printed catalogue covering the eighteenth century. Miss Mabel L. Webber, the indefatigable Librarian, Secretary and Treasurer Etc., Etc., of the S. Ca. Hist. Soc., Miss E. M. FitzSimons, Librarian of the Charleston Library Soc., our own State Librarian, Mrs. Maud Barker Cobb, and her able Assistant Miss Carrie L. Dailey (compiler of the valuable Ga. bibliography in Bowker's "State Publications," N. Y. 1908) have promptly answered many specific bibliographical queries; and Mr. Wm. Harden, the courteous Librarian of the Ga. Hist. Soc., has kindly called my attention to various books, of which I later found and bought copies.

Though under present war conditions the influence of this Library is just now potential rather than active, its mere presence comparatively near the collections of the Ga. Hist. Society would seem to account for the fact that Prof. Theodore H. Jack, of Emory University, last year publicly suggested (36) to his fellow-members of the new Georgia Historical *Association*, most of whom live very far from Savannah and from any such materials except that in the Atlanta Archives, that their Society (whose name is so strikingly similar to ours, as well as its scope and avowed aims) should sustantially confine itself to the more recent history of the State (e. g. the period since the Revolution) thus leaving the rest to us still.

Such a policy, based on our own motto, would indeed tend to prevent unnecessary duplication of work. In any case, certainly no one can dispute the fact that our (older) Society has always aimed at doing its best, and has also always gladly welcomed every worker in the whole field. Since 1900 it has published more, including the Quarterly, than ever before.

The late Mr. DeRenne wished to aid materially every serious seeker after historical truth. Let us all try to follow his example in this.

(36) Cf. Proceedings of the Ga. Historical Association I, 30 (1907.)